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elapsed since the publication of the first edition, nearly every statute has been substantially amended and there have been between seven and eight hundred decisions of the courts upon these questions in various jurisdictions. The general trend of the legislation is to increase the rate of taxation and to extend taxes on transfers of non-resident decedents. This volume, therefore, becomes a necessity to the lawyer who wishes to know the law in order to advise his clients upon this subject. Lawyers will be surprised to know that there are nearly two thousand decisions upon inheritance tax questions in the various courts of this country. A most excellent plan adopted by this edition is in arranging the table of cases by states. We wish it was done in every law book published, as it would enable the lawyer in each state to find the law of his own jurisdiction without wading through a large number of names. This volume also contains the new United States Statutes and the Federal Rules and regulations approved in 1922.

It is needless to say that the mechanical execution of the book, coming from the well known house of Matthew Bender & Company, leaves nothing to be desired.

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**Cases in International Law.**—Principally Selected from Decisions of English and American Court. Edited by James Brown Scott. American Case Book Series. William R. Vance, General Editor. St. Paul, Minnesota. West Publishing Company.

**Cases on the Law of Bills and Notes.**—Selected from Decisions of English and American Courts. By Howard L. Smith, Professor of Law in the University of Wisconsin, and William Underhill Moore, Professor of Law in Columbia University. American Case Book Series. William Reynolds Vance, General Editor. 2nd Edition. St. Paul, Minnesota. West Publishing Company.

The first one of this well known series, the Cases in International Law, is exceedingly timely when great questions of international law are probably more to the fore than they have been for many years; and not only students but practitioners and all interested in these questions would do well to examine carefully the majority of cases in this book, so wisely selected. He who would understand international law must be something of a man of the world, having a good knowledge of history and economics, and the faculty of clear thought connected with a clear head, and we know of no book which would have the effect of making the head think clearly upon international law more than this one. If the student is required to analyze and condense these cases, in other words, make a concise head note to the cases studied, he will obtain not only a method of clear thinking but a power of analysis of the greatest value to him.

The second volume noted above is a second edition, and those who have the first and who choose to use the two volumes together, will

find that they have a splendid foundation for a knowledge of the important subjects treated in the cases reported in this volume. We old fogies—and the Editor-in-Chief confesses to be one—who never believed in case law, feel our feet constantly slipping under our feet as we find what valuable aids to general principles these books afford.

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**The Holy Alliance.**—The European Background of the Monroe Doctrine. By, W. P. Cresson, Ph.D. Formerly Secretary of the American Embassy in Petrograd. New York. Oxford University Press. American Branch 35 West 32nd Street. London, Toronto, Melbourne and Bombay. 1922. Price \$1.50.

The volumes issued under the auspices of the Carnegie Foundation for International Peace are of a value hard to be over-estimated, bringing within the reach of those who could not otherwise get the information treaties, judicial settlements of controversies between the states and other subjects too numerous to be mentioned; but probably no volume of the series, unless we except the admirable publication of Madison's Debates, will be read with more interest than this little volume upon the Holy Alliance. Some of us know something about the Holy Alliance, but to the greater part of us it is nothing more than a name. The value of this work is quite out of proportion to its size. It makes clear the aim and purpose of the Czar Alexander in forcing the Holy Alliance upon his unwilling compatriots, and shows the relation of the Monroe Doctrine to the Holy Alliance, and it enables the reader of the old as well as the new world to understand both. Most of us will be surprised to know that at the end of the greatest of wars attempts have been made to devise some scheme whereby a recourse to arms might be less likely to occur, if it could not be wholly avoided; and to those who peruse this volume the action of the United States in declining to be brought into the League of Nations will be shown to be a most stupendous blunder. The book can be read in a couple of hours, but is worth more hours of careful thought than will be taken to read it.